

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 4422

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS:PFOR, UR, TW

SUBJECT: VIKTOR LOUIS' ALLEGED VISIT TO TAIWAN

REF: HONG KONG 7551

1. AMBASSADOR RAISED FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW REPORT OF VIKTOR LOUIS VISIT TO TAIWAN WITH FRED CHIEN (CHIEN FU, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS), WHO IS CITED IN REFTEL AS SOURCE OF FEER STORY. CHIEN CATEGORICALLY DENIED THERE HAD BEEN ANY VISIT IN 1974 BUT DID SAY LOUIS HAD APPLIED FOR A VISA AND HAD BEEN TURNED DOWN.

2. WITH RESPECT TO THE 1968 VISIT, CHIEN SAID VIKTOR LOUIS HAD AT THAT TIME REPRESENTED HIMSELF TO BE A REPORTER FOR THE LONDON EVENING NEWS AND THAT GROG WAS AT FIRST UNAWARE OF HIS SOVIET CONNECTION. ALTHOUGH HE HAD A BRIEF INTERVIEW WITH PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO, HIS VISIT WAS CUT SHORT WHEN THE ROC FULLY REALIZED WHO HE WAS. SINCE THAT TIME LOUIS HAS APPLIED FOR A VISA SEVERAL TIMES AND HAS BEEN REFUSED.

3. COMMENT: WE ACCEPT CHIEN'S DENIAL THAT VIKTOR LOUIS HAS VISITED HERE RECENTLY. WE CERTAINLY HAVE HEARD NOTHING TO CORROBORATE HIS REPORTED PRESENCE IN TAIWAN.

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